

Hämeelinna, Finland, 4-6 June, 2003**Agenda Item:****Source: Nortel Networks****Title: Exception of Release 5 “deep freeze” for
3GPP usage of IETF SIP****Document for: Decision**

Introduction

At the joint workshop with IETF in January, it was agreed that 3GPP usage of SIP for the IP Multimedia Subsystem should be compliant with IETF specifications.

We understand that it was the intention to follow this agreement in Release 5, and indeed it was understood that Release 5 specifications already followed this principle.

However we have since identified a number of areas in which these principles have not been fully implemented in the Release 5 specifications.

Discussion

The principles agreed were specifically that 3GPP shall implement and use all IETF MUST strength requirements and shall not downgrade IETF SHOULD strength requirements. In addition, 3GPP SIP clients should be able to fall back to baseline capabilities when an extension negotiation failure occurs.

We note that the requirement to implement mandatory capabilities from IETF SIP implies that the baseline IETF SIP capabilities will be supported by all 3GPP SIP clients. This requirement exists already in Release 5 specifications.

The point at issue, therefore is that 3GPP Release 5 clients should invoke IETF baseline procedures in the case of negotiation failure. In some cases this does not appear to be well described in the 3GPP specs, and in at least one case it appears to be prohibited. Support for IETF baseline procedures should already be available in the client according to the IETF agreement.

As an example, 24.229 states that a 3GPP client receiving a request which does not indicate support of the ‘100rel’ extension SHALL reject that request, whereas IETF SIP specifies that it SHOULD NOT reject it.

Conclusion

Deviations from the intended compliancy principles will have serious consequences for interoperability in Release 6, not only between 3GPP and IETF SIP clients but possibly also between 3GPP R5 and 3GPP R6 clients.

We therefore recommend that further time is allowed for working groups to study these issues prior to the freezing of release 5. In this area we request an exception to the freezing of Release 5 until the September plenary. CN working groups should be requested to provide the appropriate CRs.